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A6 employed with industry standard connector heads for low voltage and high voltage connections. Likewise, the connector may be employed in high and low voltage plugs and switches.

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 1-20 and 22 without prejudice.

Please add the following new claims:

23. (New) A locking connector for electrically interconnecting two or more

electrical conductors comprising:

an electrical contact component electrically interengaged with a first conductor, said contact component including a contact section and an opening that receives a second conductor;

at least one spring locking clip that is spring biased to grip the second conductor and hold the second conductor in electrical interengagement with said contact section, while resisting disengagement of the second conductor from said contact section;

and

a release hole formed through said contact section transversely offset from said opening for receiving a clip release element, said clip having a portion extending transversely outward of said opening in line with said release hole for engagement by the clip release element upon insertion of the clip release element into the release hole to urge said clip into an open condition to permit unobstructed

insertion and removal of the second conductor into and out of said contact component.

Sab P2 24. (New) The connector of claim 23 wherein said clip has a grip locking end portion in alignment with said opening that is spring biased to grip the second conductor.

C-10 A6 25. (New) The connector of claim 24 wherein said grip locking end portion is transversely curved to conform to the profile of the second conductor.

Sab P3 26. (New) The connector of claim 23 wherein said clip is electrically conductive.

27. (New) The connector of claim 23 wherein said contact component includes another section spaced from said contact section, and an intermediate section that interconnects said contact section and said another section, said opening for the second conductor extending through said intermediate section.

28. (New) The connector of claim 27 wherein said clip is secured to said another section and is spring biased toward said contact section.

(New)

29. (New) The connector of claim 28 wherein said clip comprises a leaf spring.

(Subs)

30. (New) The connector of claim 23 wherein said contact section includes guide means for locating the second conductor relative to said clip.

(Cont'd)

31. (New) The connector of claim 30 wherein said guide means comprises an elongate rib formed in said contact section transversely offset from said opening.

32. (New) The connector of claim 31 wherein said release hole extends through said elongate rib.

(Subs)

33. (New) The connector of claim 23 further including an enclosure that accommodates said compact component, said enclosure having an inlet aligned with said opening for receiving the second conductor.

34. (New) The connector of claim 33 wherein said enclosure includes a unitary component.

Su 81 35. (New) The connector of claim 23 wherein said contact component has opposite ends, said opening that receives the second conductor extending through one of said ends, and another opening that receives the first conductor extending through the other of said ends, and at least one additional spring locking clip that is spring biased to grip the first conductor and hold the first conductor in electrical interengagement with said contact section, while resisting disengagement of the first conductor from said contact section.

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36. (New) The connector of claim 35 further comprising another release hole formed through said contact section transversely offset from said another opening for receiving a clip release element, said additional clip having a portion extending transversely outward of said another opening in line with said another release hole that is engageable by the clip release element upon insertion of the clip release element into said another release hole to urge said additional clip into an open condition to permit unobstructed insertion and removal of the first conductor into and out of said contact component.

Su 81 37. (New) The connector of claim 23 further comprising an enclosure that includes a generally rectilinear component having an interior space that accommodates said contact component, said rectilinear component including a front surface having an inlet aligned with said opening for receiving the second

conductor, and a rib that peripherally surrounds said rectilinear component and
B1 extends transversely to said front surface, said generally rectilinear component
including at least one surface that has a recess formed therein which facilitates a
user's grip.

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38. (New) A locking connector for electrically interconnecting two or more
electrical conductors comprising:

an electrical contact component electrically interengaged with a first
conductor, said contact component including a contact section and an opening that
receives a second conductor;

and

at least one spring locking clip that is spring biased to grip the second
conductor and hold the second conductor in electrical interengagement with said
contact section, while resisting disengagement of the second conductor from said
contact section, said clip having a grip locking end portion that is transversely
curved to conform to the profile of the second conductor.

*perpendicular to the
contact section
and intermediate section
with*